

WHITE HOUSE TARGETS CONSPIRACY THEORISTS

A document quoted by US President George W. Bush in a recent speech on how to "win the war on terror" cites conspiracies as one of the wellsprings of terrorism and threatens to "address" and "diminish" the problems they are causing the government.

Bush referred to the paper as "an unclassified version of the strategy we've been pursuing since September 11, 2001" that takes into account "the changing nature of this enemy".

The document says that terrorism springs from "subcultures of conspiracy and misinformation".

It goes on to say: "...terrorists recruit more effectively from populations whose information about the world is contaminated by falsehoods and corrupted by conspiracy theories. The distortions keep alive grievances and filter out facts that would challenge popular prejudices and self-serving propaganda."

The terminology echoes Bush's speech to the UN General Assembly on November 10, 2001, in which he stated: "Let us never tolerate outrageous conspiracy theories concerning the attacks of September 11, malicious lies that attempt to shift the blame away from the terrorists themselves, away from the guilty."

(Source: *PrisonPlanet.com*, September 7, 2006, <http://www.prisonplanet.com/articles/september2006/070906terroristrecruiters.htm>.)



SCIENTISTS CALLED ON TO TEST "FREE ENERGY" TECHNOLOGY

Irish company Steorn Ltd is challenging the worldwide scientific community to test a technology it has developed that it claims produces free energy.

Steorn issued its challenge through an advertisement in the *Economist* magazine in mid-August.

Sean McCarthy, Steorn's chief executive officer, said its discovery is based on the interaction of magnetic fields and allows the production of clean, free and constant energy—a concept that challenges one of the basic rules of physics.

"What we have developed is a way to construct magnetic fields so that when you travel round the magnetic fields, starting

and stopping at the same position, you have gained energy," he said.

The company claims the technology can be used to supply energy for most devices, from mobile phones to cars.

A big obstacle to overcome was the disbelief that what they had developed was even possible.

"For the first six months that we looked at it, we literally didn't believe it ourselves. Over the last three years it had been rigorously tested in our own laboratories, in independent laboratories and so on, but we have been unable to get significant scientific interest in it.

"We have had scientists come in, test it, and off the record they are quite happy to admit that it works.

"But for us to be able to commercialise this and put this into

people's lives, we need credible academic validation in the public domain—and hence the challenge," McCarthy said.

(Sources: *PhysOrg.com*, August 18, 2006; *Steorn Ltd*, <http://www.steorn.net>)

GARBAGE BINS PACK SPY CHIPS

Garbage bins all over England are under surveillance. At least 500,000 "wheelie bins" now have passive RFID tags screwed into a hole in the lip of the bin. As the bin is hoisted up for emptying, an RFID reader on the rubbish truck interrogates the chip, which divulges a serial number identifying the property owner. The weight of the bin is recorded by the truck's sensors and is registered in a database entry along with the serial number. The database entries for the day are downloaded at the dump and stored in a vast central databank of property owner behaviour.

You should remember that many of the articles you buy (and sooner or later throw away) are now also equipped with passive RFID tags that detail the item's brand name and product name. If it's possible to scan the tag on the rubbish bin with an ID, it's possible to use similar equipment to scan your can quickly to uncover your purchasing habits.

This might be a good time to insist on zombie RFID tags on consumer products; they can be turned off when you take them from the store.

(Source: *Technovelgy.com*, August 31, 2006, http://www.livescience.com/scienceoffiction/060831_technovelgy.html)



HYPNOSIS HELPS BALDNESS?

Hypnotherapy may enhance the mental well-being of patients with alopecia areata and it may improve clinical outcome, according to Dr Ria Willemsen and colleagues of the Free University in Brussels. Alopecia areata is an autoimmune disease characterised by sudden, recurrent hair loss in round spots from the scalp or any part of the body that has hair.

Willemsen's team explored hypnosis as a treatment for 21 individuals with extensive hair loss on 30 per cent or more of their scalp that had lasted for at least three months. These patients, all of whom previously failed to respond to treatment with steroids, were followed for anywhere from six months to six years.

After treatment with a minimum of just three to four sessions of hypnotherapy, 12 patients experienced hair growth on at least 75 per cent of their scalp, and nine of these 12 experienced total hair growth, Willemsen and colleagues reported.

None of the patients noted any negative side effects due to the hypnotherapy. Yet, five study participants experienced a significant relapse during the follow-up period.

(Source: Sydney Morning Herald, August 28, 2006, <http://www.smh.com.au>)

ARMING BIG BROTHER

A Statewatch-TNI report reveals the development as well as the true costs of Europe's security-industrial complex—particularly the development of the European Security Research Programme (ESRP).

Spawned by the military-industrial complex, the security-industrial complex has developed as the traditional boundaries between external security (military), internal security (security services) and law enforcement (police) have eroded. With the global market for technologies of repression more lucrative than ever in the wake of September 11, 2001, it is on a healthy expansion course.

The story of the European Security Research Programme is one of "Big Brother" meets market fundamentalism. It was personified by the establishment in 2003 of a "Group of Personalities" (GoP), comprised of European Union officials and Europe's biggest arms and IT companies.

The GoP's concern was a simple one: European multinationals are losing out to their US competitors because the US government is providing them with a

billion dollars a year for security research. It recommended the EU match this level of funding to ensure a "level playing field". The European Commission obliged with a "preparatory" budget for security research in 2004–06, with the full ESRP to begin in 2007, and created the European Security Research Advisory Board to oversee the program. This makes the GoP permanent and gives profit-making corporations an official status in the EU, shaping not just security research but security policy.

Myriad local and global surveillance systems; the introduction of biometric identifiers; RFID, electronic tagging and satellite monitoring; "less-lethal weapons"; paramilitary equipment for public order and crisis management; the militarisation of border controls...technological advances in law enforcement are often welcomed uncritically, but rarely are these technologies neutral in either application or effect.

Military organisations dominate research and development in these areas under the banner of "dual-use" technology, avoiding both the constraints and controversies of the arms trade. Tomorrow's technologies of control quickly become today's political imperative; contentious policies appear increasingly irresistible.

There are strong arguments for regulating, limiting and resisting the development of the security-industrial complex, but as yet there has been precious little debate.

(Source: Statewatch.org, April 2006, <http://www.statewatch.org/news/2006/apr/bigbrother.pdf>)

THE UK TERROR PLOT: WHAT'S REALLY GOING ON?

Having had the highest security clearances, having done a huge amount of professional intelligence analysis and having been inside the spin machine, I believe this is the true story on the so-called bomb plot...

None of the alleged terrorists had made a bomb. None had bought a plane ticket. Many did not even have a passport, which given the efficiency of the UK Passport Agency would mean they couldn't be a plane bomber for quite some time...

What is more, many of those arrested had been under surveillance for over a year—like thousands of other British Muslims... Nothing from that surveillance had indicated the need for early arrests.

Then an interrogation in Pakistan revealed the details of this amazing plot to blow up multiple planes—which, rather extraordinarily, had not turned up in a year of surveillance. Of course, the interrogators of the Pakistani dictator have their ways of making people sing like canaries. As I witnessed in Uzbekistan, you can get the most extraordinary information this way. Trouble is, it always tends to give the interrogators all they might want, and more, in a desperate effort to stop or avert torture. What it doesn't give is the truth...

In all of this, the one thing of which I am certain is that the timing is deeply political. This is more propaganda than plot.

(Source: Craig Murray, former British ambassador to Uzbekistan, 14 August 2006, <http://www.craigmurray.co.uk>)



THE TOP 25 NEWS STORIES AS JUDGED BY PROJECT CENSORED

1) Future of Internet Debate Ignored by Media

Throughout 2005 and 2006, a large underground debate raged regarding the future of the Internet. More recently referred to as "network neutrality", the issue has become a tug of war with cable companies on the one hand and consumers and Internet service providers on the other.

2) Halliburton Charged with Selling Nuclear Technologies to Iran

According to journalist Jason Leopold, sources at US Vice-President Dick Cheney's former company Halliburton allege that, as recently as January 2005, the company sold key components for a nuclear reactor to an Iranian oil development company. Leopold says his Halliburton sources have intimate knowledge of the business dealings of both Halliburton and Oriental Oil Kish, one of Iran's largest private oil companies.

3) Oceans of the World in Extreme Danger

Oceanic problems once found on a local scale are now pandemic. Data from oceanography, marine biology, meteorology and glaciology reveal that the oceans are changing in ominous ways. A vortex of cause and effect wrought by global environmental dilemmas is changing the ocean from a watery horizon with assorted regional troubles to a global system in alarming distress.

4) Hunger and Homelessness Increasing in the USA

The number of hungry and homeless people in US cities continued to grow in 2005, despite claims of an improved economy. Increased demand for vital services rose as the needs of the most destitute went unmet, according to the annual report of the US Conference of Mayors which, since its 1982 inception, has documented increasing need.

5) High-Tech Genocide in the Congo

The world's most neglected emergency, according to the United Nations Emergency Relief Coordinator, is the ongoing tragedy of the Congo, where six to seven million have died since 1996 as a consequence of invasions and wars sponsored by Western powers trying to gain control of the region's mineral wealth.

6) Federal Whistleblower Protection in Jeopardy

Special counsel Scott Bloch, appointed by President George W. Bush in 2004, is overseeing the virtual elimination of whistleblower rights in the US government.

7) US Operatives Torture Detainees to Death in Afghanistan and Iraq

On October 25, 2005, the American Civil Liberties Union released documents on 44 autopsies performed in Afghanistan and Iraq. Twenty-one of those deaths are listed as homicides. The documents show that detainees died during and after interrogations by Navy SEALs, military intelligence and other agencies.

8) Pentagon Exempt from Freedom of Information Act Requests

The Department of Defense has been granted exemption from the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA). In December 2005, Congress passed the 2006 Defense Authorization Act which renders Defense Intelligence Agency "operational files" fully immune to FOIA requests.

9) The World Bank Funds Israel-Palestine Wall

Despite the 2004 International Court of Justice decision that called for tearing down the Israel-Palestine Wall and compensating affected communities, construction of the Wall has accelerated. The World Bank's vision of "economic development", however, evades any discussion of the Wall's illegality.

10) Expanded Air War in Iraq Will Kill More Civilians

There is widespread speculation that President Bush will begin pulling troops out of Iraq in 2006. A key element of the drawdown plans not mentioned in public statements is that the departing American troops will be replaced by American airpower.

11) Dangers of Genetically Modified Food Confirmed

Several recent studies confirm fears that Genetically modified (GM) foods damage human health. These studies were released as the World Trade Organization moved towards upholding the ruling that the EU has violated international trade rules by stopping importation of GM foods.

12) Pentagon Plans New Land Mines

The Bush administration plans to resume production of antipersonnel land mine systems in a move that is at odds with both the international community and previous US policy, says Human Rights Watch.

13) New Evidence Establishes Dangers of Roundup/Glyphosate

New studies from both sides of the Atlantic reveal that Roundup, the most widely used weed-killer in the world, poses serious human health threats.

14) Homeland Security Contracts KBR to Build US Detention Centres

Halliburton's subsidiary KBR (formerly Kellogg, Brown and Root) announced on January 24, 2006, that it had been



awarded a US\$385 million contingency contract by the US Department of Homeland Security to build detention camps able to hold 5,000 people each.

15) Chemical Industry is EPA's Primary Research Partner

The US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) research program is increasingly relying on corporate joint ventures. The American Chemical Council is now the EPA's leading research partner. The EPA is diverting funds from basic health and environmental research towards research that addresses regulatory concerns of corporate funders.

16) Ecuador and Mexico Defy USA on International Criminal Court

Ecuador and Mexico have refused to sign bilateral immunity agreements (BIA) with the USA in ratification of the International Criminal Court (ICC) treaty. Despite the Bush administration's threat to withhold economic aid, both countries confirmed allegiance to the ICC, the international body established to try individuals accused of war crimes and crimes against humanity.

17) Iraq Invasion Promotes OPEC Agenda

According to a report from journalist Greg Palast, the US invasion of Iraq was indeed about the oil. However, the US wasn't out to destroy OPEC, as claimed by neo-conservative writers, but to take part in it and increase US oil company profits.

18) Physicist Challenges Official 9/11 Story

Research into the events of 9/11 by Brigham Young University physics professor Steven E. Jones concludes that the official explanation for the collapse of the World Trade Center buildings is implausible according to the laws of physics. Professor Jones is calling for an independent, international scientific investigation "guided not by politicized notions and constraints, but rather by observations and calculations".

19) Destruction of Rainforests Declared Worst Ever

New developments in satellite imaging technology reveal that the Amazon rainforest is being destroyed twice as quickly as previously estimated due to the surreptitious practice of selective logging.

20) Bottled Water: A Global Environmental Problem

Consumers spend a collective US\$100 billion every year on bottled water in the belief—often mistaken—that it is better for us than what flows from our taps. Worldwide, bottled water consumption surged to 41 billion gallons in 2004, up 57 per cent since 1999.

21) Gold Mining Company Threatens Ancient Andean Glaciers

Barrick Gold, a powerful multinational gold mining company, planned to melt three Andean glaciers in order to access gold deposits through open pit mining. The water from the glaciers would have been held for refreezing in the following winters. Opposition to the mine because of destruction to water sources for Andean farmers was widespread in Chile and the rest of the world. Construction of the mine is expected to begin in 2006.

22) Billions of Dollars in Homeland Security Spending Undisclosed

More than US\$8 billion in Homeland Security funds has been doled out to States since the 9/11 attacks, but the public has little chance of knowing how this money is being spent.

23) US Oil Targets Kyoto in Europe

Lobbyists funded by the US oil industry have launched a campaign in Europe aimed at derailing efforts to tackle greenhouse gas pollution and climate change. Documents that have been obtained by Greenpeace reveal a systematic plan to persuade European business, politicians and media that the EU should abandon its commitments under the Kyoto protocol, the agreement that aims to reduce emissions that lead to global warming.

24) Cheney's Halliburton Stock Rose Over 3,000% in 2005

US Vice-President Dick Cheney's stock options in Halliburton rose from US\$241,498 in 2004 to over \$8 million in 2005, an increase of more than 3,000 per cent, as Halliburton continues to rake in billions of dollars from no-bid/no-audit government contracts.

25) US Military in Paraguay Threatens Region

Five hundred US troops arrived in Paraguay with planes, weapons and ammunition in July 2005, shortly after the Paraguayan Senate granted US troops immunity from national and International Criminal Court jurisdiction. Neighbouring countries and human rights organisations are concerned that the massive air base at Mariscal Estigarribia is potential real estate for the US military.

(Source: Project Censored 2007, Sonoma State University, California, USA, website <http://www.projectcensored.org>)

